Schemes/programmes for promotion of Science and Technology

2216. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the centrally sponsored schemes and programmes for development and promotion of Science and Technology under implementation in the country, particularly in rural areas;

(b) the details of funds allotted to each State and Union Territory for these schemes during the last three years; and

(c) the details of funds utilised by them and the achievements made so far in this regard during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir. Several central schemes and programmes are in operation for development and promotion of Science and Technology in the Rural Areas nemely Science & Technology Application for Rural Development, Science & Technology Application for Weaker Sections, Science and Technology for Women, S&T for Stategic Needs of Scheduled Castes under Special Component Plan, Empowerment of Tribal Population through S&T under Tribal Sub Plan, Bio-technology based programme for Rural Areas and Bio-technology based programme for women. Support is also provided to the Councils/Departments of Science and Technology of the States. Apart from these, schemes on Science Communication and Popularization and Natural Resources Data Management System are being implemented through research or academic institutions and science based voluntary organisation in rural areas.

(b) No State-wise fund is allocated for these schemes.

(c) Does not arise.

Forecast by IMD

2217. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Meteorological Department has forecast below normal rainfall this year;